

# Weekly Sampling Summary

6/20/2010

## Venice Division

### **462 Total Air Samples**

### **1 Samples of Note**

Since the beginning of the response, 462 air samples were collected to air quality. One sample of note collected May 1 was identified. Based on this data there is no evidence of contamination from chemicals associated with the oil spill. EPA will sample again as needed.

The levels of some of the pollutants that have been reported to date may cause temporary eye, nose, or throat irritation, nausea, or headaches, but are not thought to be high enough to cause long-term harm.

### **28 Total Sediment Samples**

### **21 Samples of Note**

Since the beginning of the response, 28 sediment samples were collected to characterize the sediment prior to the oil spill. Data from these samples characterize the conditions of the sediment prior to the oil spill.

### **221 Total Surface Water Samples**

### **5 Samples of Note**

Since the beginning of the response, 221 surface water samples were collected to monitor water quality. EPA continues to monitor surface water. Based on this data, there has been no indication of contamination from the oil spill.

<<INSERT MAPP HERE>>

## Important Notes:

- Samples of Note are limited to compounds associated with the oil spill.
- EPA contaminant data are compared to benchmarks (e.g. NCCA) to determine the potential effects of contaminants on human health and aquatic life.
- Sampling locations are not necessarily representative of widespread coastal conditions.
- Visitors and residents should refer to state and local information for beach closure conditions in their area.
- In areas where contaminant levels exceed benchmarks, it is important to remember that historical contamination may exist in some sampling locations and may not be related to the BP spill.
- The levels of some of the pollutants that have been reported to date may cause temporary eye, nose, or throat irritation, nausea, or headaches, but are not thought to be high enough to cause long-term harm.
- EPA, in partnership with states, oversees the National Coastal Condition Assessment (NCCA). NCCA reports describe the ecological and environmental conditions in U.S. coastal waters. When possible, EPA is comparing data collected during the BP spill response to the NCCA data. Sample results are also being compared to EPA water quality criteria guidelines and State water quality standards.
- EPA's sampling takes about 7 days to complete before the data can be posted on EPA's website. As such, the data EPA posts is not representative of current conditions but rather is a snapshot in time for a given location.